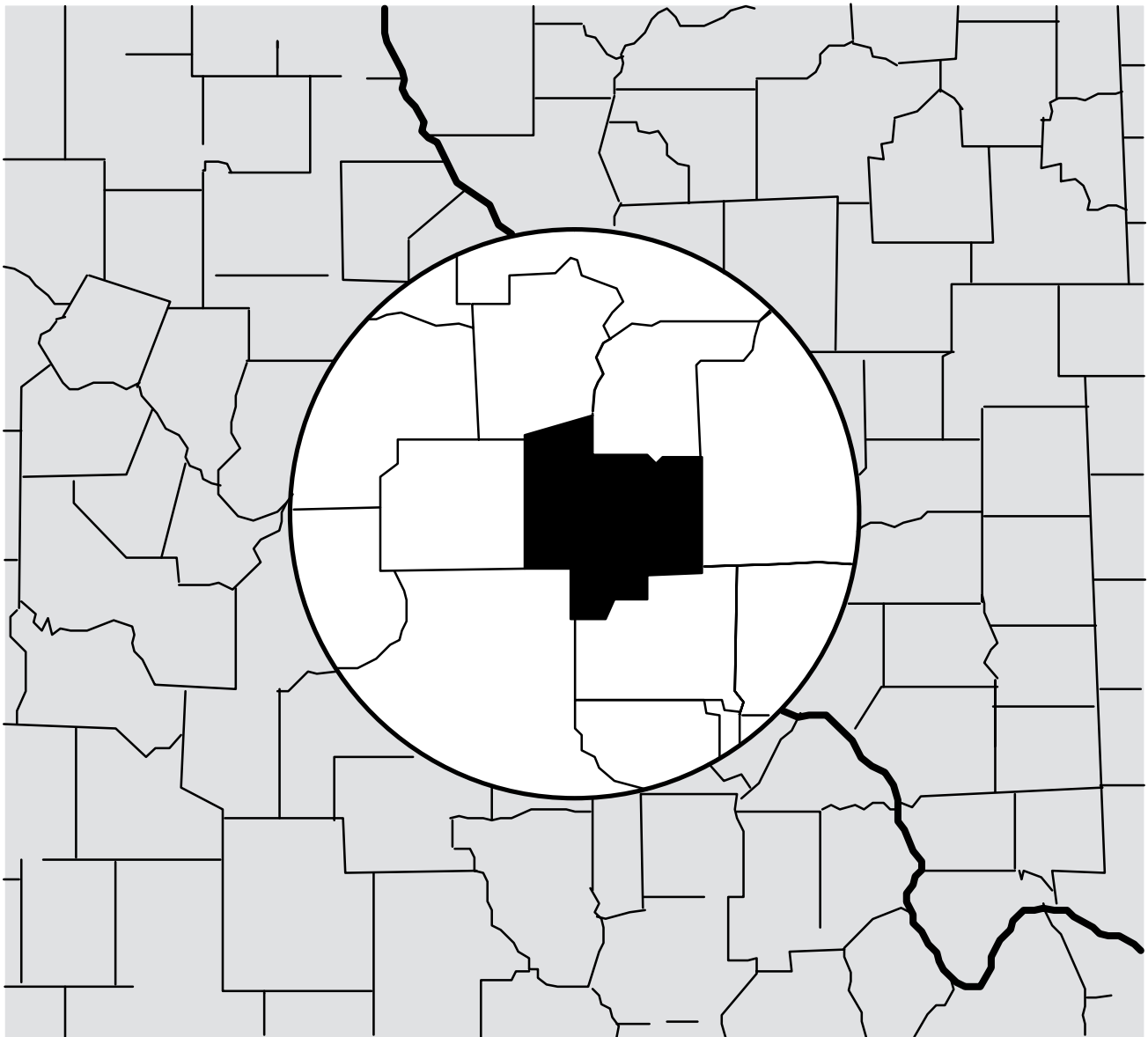


County Business Patterns 1993



U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

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County Business Patterns 1993

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General Explanation

INTRODUCTION

County Business Patterns is an annual series that provides subnational economic data by industry. The series is useful for studying the economic activity of small areas; analyzing economic changes over time; and as a benchmark for statistical series, surveys, and databases between economic censuses. The series serves various business uses such as analyzing market potential, measuring the effectiveness of sales and advertising programs, setting sales quotas, and developing budgets. The data are also used by government agencies for administration and planning.

Most of the nation's economic activity is covered in this series. Data are excluded for self-employed persons, domestic service workers, railroad employees, agricultural production workers, most government employees, and employees on ocean-borne vessels or in foreign countries. Data are provided by industry in the following economic divisions: agricultural services, forestry, and fishing; mining; construction; manufacturing; transportation and public utilities; wholesale trade; retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and services. Data are tabulated by industry as defined in the *Standard Industrial Classification Manual: 1987*.

This series has been published annually since 1964 and at irregular intervals dating back to 1946. The comparability of data over time may be affected by definitional changes in establishments, activity status, and industrial classifications. For more details on these changes, see the section "Comparability With Other Data."

NEW THIS YEAR

Due to printing limitations, there are some minor changes to the printed County Business Patterns reports for 1993. Data for detailed industries with fewer than 100 employees are not shown in the printed report. Prior to 1993, data for industries with 50 or more employees were shown. In addition, data for detailed industries withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual companies are not shown in the printed reports. These data are included in the next broader industry group. County Business Patterns CD-ROM and other computer products are not subject to these printing limitations.

A user survey is included in this publication. Information from this survey will assist the Census Bureau in designing future County Business Patterns printed reports and electronic data products.

If you wish to comment on the design, content, or uses of the County Business Patterns data products, contact:

Bureau of the Census
Economic Planning and Coordination Division
Survey Processing and Products Branch
Washington, DC 20233

301-457-2580
Fax: 301-457-4433

DATA PRODUCTS

Printed Reports

The County Business Patterns data series includes a separate printed report for each State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the United States. Individual State reports present payroll and employment data for the State and counties by industry. The reports also include the number of establishments by industry and employment size class.

The United States report presents similar data for the nation as a whole. In addition, the U.S. report provides employment and payroll data by employment size class for major industry groups.

Data for industries with fewer than 100 employees are not shown in the printed reports, but are available on CD-ROM and other computer products. To order printed County Business Patterns reports, contact the Government Printing Office at 202-512-1800.

Electronic Data Formats

County Business Patterns series data are available on CD-ROM, computer tapes and diskettes, and microfiche. The CD-ROM contains 1993 and 1992 County Business Patterns data and menu-driven access software. The CD-ROM also includes software for creating County Business Patterns data files compatible with popular database and spreadsheet software. For information and to order other County Business Patterns data products, contact:

Customer Services Branch
Data User Services Division
Bureau of the Census
Washington, DC 20233

Phone: 301-457-4100
Internet Address: <<http://www.census.gov/>>

SOURCES OF DATA

County Business Patterns basic data items are extracted from the Standard Statistical Establishment List, a file of all known single and multiestablishment companies maintained and updated by the Bureau of the Census. The annual Company Organization Survey provides individual establishment data for multiestablishment companies. Data for single establishment companies are obtained from various Census Bureau programs, such as the Annual Survey of Manufactures and Current Business Surveys, as well as from administrative records of the Internal Revenue Service and the Social Security Administration.

DEFINITIONS OF BASIC DATA ITEMS

Establishments

An establishment is a single physical location at which business is conducted or services or industrial operations are performed. It is not necessarily identical with a company or enterprise, which may consist of one or more establishments. When two or more activities are carried on at a single location under a single ownership, all activities generally are grouped together as a single establishment. The entire establishment is classified on the basis of its major activity and all data are included in that classification.

Administrative and auxiliary establishments primarily manage, administer, service, or support the activities of other establishments of the same company rather than the establishments of other companies or the general public. Data for these establishments are shown separately by industry division.

Establishment-size designations are determined by paid employment in the mid-March pay period. The size group "1 to 4" includes establishments that did not report any paid employees in the mid-March pay period but paid wages to at least one employee at some time during the year.

Establishment counts represent the number of locations with paid employees any time during the year. This series excludes governmental establishments except for liquor stores (SIC 592), wholesale liquor establishments (SIC 518), depository institutions (SIC 60), federal and federally-sponsored credit agencies (SIC 611), and hospitals (SIC 806).

Payroll

Total payroll includes all forms of compensation, such as salaries, wages, reported tips, commissions, bonuses, vacation allowances, sick-leave pay, employee contributions to qualified pension plans, and the value of taxable fringe benefits. For corporations, it includes amounts paid to officers and executives; for unincorporated businesses,

it does not include profit or other compensation of proprietors or partners. Payroll is reported before deductions for Social Security, income tax, insurance, union dues, etc. First-quarter payroll consists of payroll during the January-to-March quarter.

Mid-March Employment

Paid employment consists of full- and part-time employees, including salaried officers and executives of corporations, who are on the payroll in the pay period including March 12. Included are employees on paid sick leave, holidays, and vacations; not included are proprietors and partners of unincorporated businesses.

INDUSTRY AND GEOGRAPHY CLASSIFICATIONS

The quinquennial economic censuses are the primary source for industry and geography classifications. The annual Company Organization Survey, Annual Survey of Manufactures, Current Business Surveys, and other Census Bureau programs provide regular updates.

Industry Classification

Additional sources for assigning industry classifications are the Social Security Administration, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. These sources provide industry classification information for new businesses and businesses not canvassed in the Census Bureau programs. Establishments without sufficient industry information are tabulated in the "unclassified establishments" group.

In a few instances, the most detailed industry classifications for which data are shown represent a combination of more detailed SIC industries. The data for these establishments are included in the tabulations at a broader industry level. For this reason, the sum of industry components published in this series may not equal the total shown.

Industry classifications are explained in an appendix in the U.S. Summary. The industry titles used throughout this series are the short SIC titles; complete descriptions are contained in the SIC manual.

Geography Classification

Most geography codes are derived from the physical location address reported in Census Bureau programs. The Internal Revenue Service provides supplemental address information. Those employers without a fixed location within a State (or of unknown county location) are included under a "statewide" classification at the end of the county

tables. This incomplete detail causes only slight understatement of county employment. The independent cities in Virginia, and the cities of Baltimore, MD; Carson City, NV; and St. Louis, MO, are treated as separate counties.

COMPARABILITY WITH OTHER DATA

Earlier County Business Patterns

The comparability of data with previous County Business Patterns series may be affected by the following definitional changes:

- the change from a “reporting unit” concept to establishment based data in 1974.
- the change in definition of “active” establishments in 1983.
- the change in industrial classification definitions, the most recent occurring in 1988.

A description of previous County Business Patterns publications is provided on the inside back cover.

1992 Economic Census

In comparing the employment and payroll shown in this series with economic censuses data, the user should bear in mind that definitional and coverage differences may affect the direct comparison of data items. The definitions are detailed in the introductory texts of the appropriate publications.

The economic census present data reported for individual establishments; whereas, County Business Patterns are based primarily on administrative records and data reported from current surveys. While every effort is made to resolve significant differences for the same establishment, differences are known to exist.

DATA WITHHELD FROM PUBLICATION

In accordance with U.S. Code, Title 13, Section 9, no data are published that would disclose the operations of an individual employer. However, the number of establishments in an industry classification and the distribution of

these establishments by employment-size class are not considered to be disclosures, and so this information may be released even though other information is withheld from publications.

RELIABILITY OF DATA

All data are tabulated from universe files and are not subject to sampling errors. However, the data are subject to nonsampling errors. Nonsampling errors can be attributed to many sources: inability to identify all cases in the universe; definition and classification difficulties; differences in interpretation of questions; errors in recording or coding the data obtained; errors of collection, response, and coverage; and estimation of employers who reported too late to be included in the tabulations and for records with missing or misreported data.

The accuracy of the data is determined by the joint effects of the various nonsampling errors. No direct measurement of these effects has been obtained; however, precautionary steps were taken in all phases of collection, processing, and tabulation to minimize the effects of nonsampling errors.

ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

The following abbreviations and symbols are used in this publication:

–	Represents zero.
A-C,E-M	Entered in place of employment data, represents an employment-size class as defined in the footnote of the tables.
(D)	Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual companies; data are included in broader industry totals.
n.e.c.	Not elsewhere classified.
SIC	Standard Industrial Classification.

Description of Publications Issued in Previous Years

1974 through 1992

Data are provided for mid-March employment, first-quarter and annual payrolls, and establishments, by industry, for each county in the State and, in a separate report, for the United States. Data are included for every industry having a significant number of employees or establishments. Refer to General Explanation for a description of the types of employment covered.

1964 through 1973

Data are provided for first-quarter reporting units, employment, and taxable payrolls for each county and metropolitan area in the State and, in a separate report, for the United States. Data are included for every industry having a significant number of employees or reporting units.

1959 and 1962

Data are provided for first-quarter reporting units, employment, and taxable payrolls for each county in the State and, in a separate report, for the United States. Data are included for every industry having a significant number of employees or reporting units. Data are combined for some counties in eight States.

1956

Data are provided for first-quarter reporting units, employment, and taxable payrolls for each county in the State and, in a separate report, for the United States. Data are included for SIC economic divisions, major groups, and selected three-digit SIC's. Data are combined for some counties in eight States.

1949 and 1950

Data are provided for first-quarter manufacturing establishments, employment, and taxable payrolls for each large county in the State and, in a separate report, for the United States. Data are included for manufacturing major industry groups and selected three-digit SIC's. Manufacturing totals are included for small counties. Data are combined for some counties in eight States.

1947, 1948, 1951, and 1953

Data are provided for first-quarter reporting units, employment, and taxable payrolls for each large county in the State and, in a separate report, for the United States. Data are included for SIC economic divisions, major groups, and selected three-digit SIC's. Economic division totals are included for small counties. Data are combined for some counties in eight States.

1946

Data are provided for first-quarter reporting units, employment, and taxable payrolls for each large county in the State and, in a separate report, for the United States. Data are included for SIC economic divisions and major groups. Economic division totals are included for small counties. Data are combined for some counties in eight States.

Availability

The most recent edition of County Business Patterns can be examined in field offices of the Department of Commerce, located in principal cities across the country. Earlier editions are available in depository libraries for Federal publications, which are also conveniently located in all areas of the country.

For information on the coverage of individual series, write to Chief, Economic Planning and Coordination Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233.